Food Sovereignty: Concept, opportunities and challenges

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Present Scenario of food and hunger

- Worldwide one billion people lack food
- 9 million people die worldwide each year
- Demand for food rising
- Food needed for 9 billion by mid-century
- Grow by 50% by 2030 and 70% by 2050
- Sustainable use of land and natural resources (use less land, water, input, produce less waste, lower environmental impact)
- New agriculture model needed
Policies and strategies being implemented:

- Failing to reducing hunger
- Losing the capacity of agriculture
- Ignoring agrarian reforms
- Inadequate and insufficient to people's access on decision making
- Declining sustainability and ecologically balance;
- Weakening food governance
Food Sovereignty

Right of people, community & country

Food and agriculture policy that is socially, economically and culturally appropriate

Right of people to have:

- safe, nutritious and culturally appropriate food and
- food producing resources

Puts the people at the centre of decisions on food systems and policies
Context of Food Sovereignty

- La Via Campesina defined, conceptualized, in 1996
- Farmers’ organizations taken as the main program
- NGOs/CSOs join and promoted
- Human rights defenders lobby and advocacy
- UN recognized as a potential issue
- Acceptance by various nations as a policy frame
Framework of food sovereignty

- Land Sovereignty
- Seed sovereignty
- Water sovereignty
- Community access to productive resources
- Legal Instrument for Peasants
- Sustainable Agriculture Practices
- Localized food system
- Regenerative Conservatory Agriculture
- Food Governance
Agrarian reforms

• Ownership on land
• Ceiling on land holdings
• Abolition of dual ownership
• Consolidation of land and land use policy
• Tenancy right
• Recording of Land and landless people
• Eradication of usury and bonded labor
• Improvement of land and land tax
• Women right
• Promotion of collectivism
Internalizing food sovereignty

- Policy framework
- Strategic framework
- Institutional Framework
Policy framework

- Policy for food production
- Policy for food distribution
- Policy for health and nutrition
- Cross cutting issues
Key policies for food production

- Agro-ecological model of production
- Building and protecting indigenous knowledge
- Seeds conservation
- Pro-people based research and technology
- Extension services
- Regulation of investment
- Support and subsidy
Key policies on food distribution

- National food distribution policies
- Food relief, food subsidy, nutrition policies
- Public Distribution System (PDS)
- Ensuring affordable basic food items
- Policies for remote and disadvantage community
- Stopping the Junk food
Key policies for health and nutrition

- Nutrition programmes focusing on marginalised
- Access to safe drinking water
- Food quality and safety
- Access to high quality food
Cross cutting issues

- Family farming promotion
- Small-scale ecological food production
- Reorientation of incentives to small farmers
- Regulation of agribusiness
- Reorientation to farmers' friendly research
- Restriction on natural resources grabbing
- Adequate funding for climate change
- Bridging gap between traditional knowledge and modern science
Strategic framework

- Producers' participation
- Producer controlled production system
- Recovering nature’s regenerative abilities
Institutional Framework

- Legal framework
- Plan of action
- FS Council/ Commission
- Rapporteur Right to Food/FS
- Independent monitoring mechanism
- International Convention on FS and PRs
Reframing existing food system

• Self sustained localized food system
• Widened food producer's access to resources
• Ensured access to food and nutritional requirements
• Higher income and rising living standard
• Sustainable and regenerative agriculture
• Agriculture flourishing
• Secured livelihood and ecological balance
• Reduced hunger to zero

Food sovereignty achieved
Opportunities

• Realized and accepted by the nations
• Communities practiced localized food production
• Widened food producer's access to resources
• Support to peasants and increasing investment
• Model of food production and distribution system
• Networking of movements
• Peasants’ participation in decision making process
• Promotion of ecological agriculture
• Reduce hunger and poverty
Challenges

• Policy departure in food and agriculture
• Modern industrial agriculture production system
• Genetically Modified Organisms (GMOs)
• International trade agreements, FDI and Climate change
• Lack of food governance
• Lack of policy credibility
• Weak and ineffective implementation
• Little responses of state toward the reform
• Lack of peasants empowerment
Thank you !